





# MERSHON CENTER for International Security Studies

[ABOUT US](#) [RESEARCH](#) [NEWS](#) [EVENTS](#) [GRANTS](#) [PEOPLE](#) [CONTACT](#) [PUBLICATIONS](#)

You are here: [Home](#) ▶ [Events](#) ▶ Penny von Eschen

## EVENTS & DEADLINES

- Mar 02** Nick Cullather  
03/02/2015, -  
Woody Hayes Speaker Series
- Mar 11** Richard Zeckhauser  
03/11/2015, -  
Citizenship Speaker Series
- Mar 12** Barbara Koremenos  
03/12/2015, -  
Globalization Speaker Series
- Mar 13** Karen Dawisha  
03/13/2015, -  
2015 Midwest Slavic  
Conference Keynote
- Mar 26** Kelly Greenhill  
03/26/2015, -  
National Security Speaker  
Series

## ARCHIVED EVENTS

Academic Year

Month

## SEARCH

## EVENTS CALENDAR

Diplomatic History Speaker Series

### PENNY VON ESCHEN

*"Rebooting the Cold War: Cultural Narratives of Triumphalism and Nostalgia"*

Friday, February 06, 2015, 12:00PM - 1:30PM

Mershon Center for International Security Studies  
1501 Neil Ave. Columbus, OH 43201

[Register for this event here.](#)

**Penny Von Eschen** is professor of history and american culture at the University of Michigan. She received her Ph.D. in history at Columbia University in 1994. Von Eschen's primary research interests include transnational cultural and political dynamics, race, gender, and empire, and the political culture of United States imperialism.

She is author of *Satchmo Blows up the World: Jazz Ambassadors Play the Cold War* (Harvard University Press, 2004) and *Race against Empire: Black Americans and Anticolonialism, 1937-1957* (Cornell University Press, 1997). Her academic work has also appeared in edited collections such as *American Studies: An Anthology* (Blackwell Press, 2009) and *Contested Democracy: Freedom, Race, and Power in American History* (Columbia University Press, 2007).

### Abstract

The lecture will examine the stakes of U.S. policy makers and cultural producers' national and global discourses about the Cold War. Von Eschen argues that a conservative narrative about the Cold War was consolidated in the 1999-2000 George W. Bush campaign, and that this account of the Cold War fundamentally shaped American responses to the terror attacks of September 11, 2001. This narrative enabled the simultaneous exponential extension and privatization of government security and surveillance under the fears of terrorism and of an extended siege by an enemy.

Triumphalist and nostalgic views of the Cold War were not simply top down inventions of politicians, academics, and pundits. To understand the development and deployment of Cold War stories, we must exit the realm of formal politics and ask how and why conservative stories about the Cold War gained traction within a broader public. The lecture investigates the stakes involved in Cold War memory and nostalgia through readings of multiple media representations of the past within intersecting sites of politics, journalism, and popular culture.



Penny Von Eschen  
Professor of History  
University of Michigan

[Back](#)

JEEvents v3.1.23 Stable Copyright © 2006-2014

## MERSHON CENTER

[About Us](#)

[Research](#)

[News](#)

[Events](#)

[Grants](#)

## INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

[Office of International Affairs](#)

[Global Gateways](#)

[International Students](#)

[International Scholars](#)

[Study Abroad](#)

## AREA STUDY CENTERS

[Center for African Studies](#)

[Center for Latin American Studies](#)

[Center for Slavic & East European Studies](#)

[Polish Studies Initiative](#)

[East Asian Studies Center](#)

## RESOURCES

[Current Events](#)

[Print Newsletter](#)

[Annual Report](#)

[Photo Album](#)

[Events Archive](#)

3/2/2015

## Mershon Center for International Security Studies - Penny von Eschen

[People](#)

[Grants and Scholarships](#)

[Institute for Chinese Studies](#)

[Knowledge Bank](#)

[Publications](#)

[International Agreements](#)

[Institute for Japanese Studies](#)

[Contact](#)

[Institute for Korean Studies](#)

[Middle East Studies Center](#)



© 2013 Mershon Center for International Security Studies – Office of International Affairs

1501 Neil Ave., Columbus, OH 43201

Phone: 614-292-1681 | Fax: 614-292-2407

[Request an alternate format of this page.](#)

